

THE DER WEEKLY

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Industry News

Fresno Plans to Fire-Up Biomass Plant

The California State University, Fresno, is planning on firing-up a biomass plant capable of producing 12 MW of power for the state's electricity grid. The University will use the proceeds from the electricity sales to assist with the costs of a new campus arena. According to the *Fresno Bee* newspaper, the plant is anticipated to generate \$1 million, in addition to defraying some of the power problems the state is experiencing. The plant, which is expected to be online in May, will burn farm and urban wood waste. [The Fresno Bee](#), April 19, 2001

PA Demonstrates PowerPark™ Technology

PowerPark™, developed by Energy Resources Alternative Power Company (ERA), is a technology that allows individuals to use their cars to provide electricity for their homes or offices, in addition to using them for transportation. It was demonstrated on April 16 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on a propane-fueled hybrid electric Ford Escort. PowerPark™ extracts electricity from hybrid electric vehicles' generator and inverter systems. It is being tested at Penn State University using vehicles ranging in size from compact cars to sport utility vehicles. [Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Press Release](#), April 16, 2001.

Datacenter Builder Receives Permit to Produce Onsite Power

U.S. DataPort, an Internet datacenter builder, was granted a permit to produce its own power for a facility it plans to construct in San Jose, California. When fully developed, it is estimated that the "server farm" will consume more than 150 MW and occupy 2.2 million square feet of space. The permit allows U.S. DataPort to produce approximately 49 MW of power from natural gas-powered generators on site. The

company has two years to find other power sources and is required by the city to develop additional sources when the 49 MW of self-generation are no longer sufficient. Construction is scheduled to begin this summer. [PowerMarketers.com](#), [U.S. DataPort Press Release](#), April 4, 2001

Utilities Offer to Pay Customers Who Use Less Electricity from the Grid

GPU, a New Jersey-based utility, has asked the state Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to let it pay relatively large customers to use backup generators when demand for power increases significantly. Under the proposed program, the utility would pay up to 50 cents per kW to customers that cut their power usage by 100 kW. GPU hopes to ease the stress on its transmission lines and substations and help avoid rushing to buy high priced electricity on the wholesale market. [The Star-Ledger](#), April 7, 2001

[Avista Utilities](#) also hopes to avoid paying high spot market prices and has filed requests with the Washington and Idaho utility commissions to implement an electricity buyback program. If the request is approved, Avista will credit customers' bills 5 cents for every kWh saved if they reduce their electric use by more than 5 percent compared to the same period of the previous year. The program would be in effect from May 15 to October 12. *Electricity Daily*, April 19, 2001

Waste Plastic will Fuel Japanese Power Plant

Sanix, Inc., a Japanese pest control company, plans to build a 74 MW power plant that will use fuel from recycled waste plastic to generate power. According to the company, the plant will consume approximately 705 metric tons of plastic fuel per day and emit about 15 to 20 percent less CO₂ than a coal plant. The plant will cost \$80 million to construct and is expected to be completed by August 2002. *Electricity Daily*, April 17, 2001.

400 Kilowatts of Solar Installed in Arizona

Arizona's largest utility, APS, has added 440 kW of solar energy to its electrical supply. The installations, which include three systems located in Glendale, Prescott, and Gilbert, double the utility's solar energy capacity. The projects are financed through customer rates. *EREN Network News*, April 18, 2001, [APS Press Release](#), April 2, 2001

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POWER CRUNCH

FEMP Awards Funding for DER Projects

After receiving 89 responses to its solicitation, FEMP awarded 16 applicants with funding for DER projects. Total equipment and technical assistance costs amounted to \$701,000. Below is a breakdown of the recipients and project focuses.

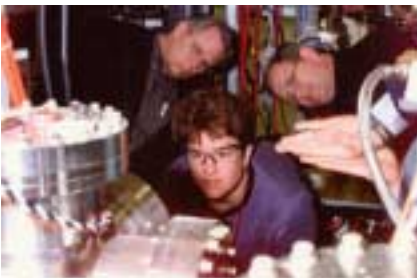
Agency	Project Location	Focus of Project
Department of Interior: National Parks	Utah	National bridges photovoltaic rehabilitation
Department of Transportation	New Jersey	USCG Lighthouse
Veteran Affairs	California	Combined heat and power plant upgrade
Department of Defense: Army	Arizona	Fuel cell heat recovery
Department of Defense: Army	New York	Combined heat and power microturbine demonstration
Department of Commerce: National	California	NWS Mirimar PV project
Health and Human Services: CDC	Africa	CARE/CDC Health Initiative Water Laboratory Solar proj.
United States Postal Service	California	Various USPS PV projects
Department of Defense: Air Force Nat'l Guard	New York	Energy Conservation & Emissions Reduction
Department of Energy: PPPL	New Jersey	Analyze opportunities with feasibility studies for DER
Department of Defense: Air Force	Florida	Cape Canaveral Air Force Station & Kennedy Space Center joint wind generation project
Department of Energy: SNL	New Mexico	Incorporating microturbines into Federal facilities; Training opportunities for Federal Facility Managers
Department of Defense: Navy	California	ESPC-Microturbine installation
Department of Defense: Navy	California	ESPC-Cogeneration plant upgrade
Department of Interior: National Parks	California	Whiskeytown Visitor Center PV systems
United States Postal Service	California	San Bernadino distributed generation project



DOE News

Staffers Attend ORNL Congressional Tour

Two Congressional staffers, members of the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, the Atlanta Regional Office, and Battelle Memorial Institute attended the Oak Ridge National Laboratory Congressional Tour on April 18-19. Charlie Cook (House Science Committee-Minority Staff, who works for Representative Ralph M. Hall, D-TX) and Njema Frazier (House Science Committee-Minority Staff) toured the ORNL facility with Debbie Haught, Office of DER, and others. The Staffers were briefed on ORNL's projects and were



provided an information and contact exchange among the participants. There was also discussion of visiting the University of Maryland test bed project, in which the Office of DER is involved.



Regional Office News

ARO Attends Green Pricing Accreditation Subcommittee Meeting

Terri Roberts and W. Dwight Bailey, Atlanta Regional Office (ARO) staff, met with the Subcommittee to recommend language for the Green Pricing Accreditation Group for an allowable biomass standard and to refine landfill methane gas criteria, if needed, to meet the proposed 90 percent biomass/landfill gas requirement. The discussion raised additional questions that need to be researched and addressed by the end of April 2001.

CRO Staff Attends Distributed Energy Resources' Education Campaign Meeting

On April 10, Gary Nowakowski, from the Chicago Regional Office (CRO), joined Joe Galdo, from the Office Distributed

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Energy Resources (DER) and the Urban Consortium Energy Task Force, at the DER Education Campaign sponsored by DER's Distributed Power Program in Denver, Colorado. The intent of the DER Education Campaign is to expedite siting and permitting of DER by familiarizing local code officials with the DER technologies and applicable codes and standards.

CRO Participates in Solar Partnership Monthly Meeting

On April 11, the monthly meeting, discussed the status of ongoing photovoltaic projects in the Chicago area and other related activities. The partnership, formed with assistance from CRO, consists of members from the City of Chicago, Commonwealth Edison (ComED), Spire Corporation, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (Local 134), State of Illinois' Department of Commerce and Community Affairs (DCCA), Chicago Public Schools (CPS), Community Energy Cooperative and others. The highlights of the meeting included: The City reported that it has been talking with the Chicago Public Libraries about installing photovoltaics on their new buildings in addition to city colleges and the Chicago Transit Authority; Spire anticipates that installations of 10 kW photovoltaic systems at 3 of 5 CPS schools will be completed by June; CPS plans to hold a Solarbration II event for the aforementioned installations on June 2th; and ComED reports that it is still working on its "Capture the Power" web site which promotes renewable energy. The next meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2001.

CRO Attends Illinois Energy Workshop

On April 16-17, approximately 86 participants attend the Illinois Energy Workshop to assist the State of Illinois in addressing deregulation issues and developing a State energy policy. The attendees included electric and gas utilities from around the state, independent power suppliers, State of Illinois personnel, Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) personnel, and Chicago Regional office staff. Dr. Rita Bajur, director of the National Energy Technology Laboratory, and Dr. Hermann Grunder, director of ANL, also attended. This working group focused on electricity and natural gas demand, supply and transmission and distribution systems. The result of this workshop will assist the State in the development of its Energy Policy.

By the Numbers

30	Air quality districts in California
44,000	Local building code jurisdictions throughout the United States

New regulations or codes must be created in each jurisdiction that will operate a newly developed technology before the product can be widely used in the market. With hundreds and thousands of local jurisdictions in the U.S., finding a single solution for technology deployment is a challenge.

Source—"Distributed Generation: Doomed by Deployment Details?" *Public Utilities Fortnightly*, February 1, 2001

Policy News

NJ Launches EERE Programs

On April 18, New Jersey environmental officials and utilities announced the start of a series of energy efficiency and renewable energy (EERE) programs. These initiatives fulfill part of the state's Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act and were recently adopted by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU). According to a press release issued by Clean Energy for New Jersey, the utilities will jointly administer programs to encourage renewable sources of energy and energy efficiency, making New Jersey the first state where all investor-owned utilities work in a cooperative manner to implement a state-wide EERE program. The BPU allocated \$358 million over the next three years to support the program, with 75 percent of the funding earmarked for the efficiency programs. [Clean Energy for NJ Press Release](#), April 18, 2001

Nevada Seeks Increase in RPS, Holds Off on Restructuring

On April 17, two bills were passed in committee that would significantly increase the state's Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS). The legislation would require that in-state new renewable energy sources reach 15% by 2007. These bills would replace the state's current law mandating an RPS of 1% by 2009. On April 18, Nevada Governor Kenny Guinn (R) signed a bill that would halt the state's electricity deregulation process. The delay is expected to be temporary, as there are hearings scheduled next week to determine the appropriate time to re-examine the issue. *EERE Western Power Issues Report*, April 19, 2001, *Electric Utility Restructuring Weekly Update*, April 20, 2001.

Environmental News

Nation's Largest Single Fleet of Electric Vehicles Launched

The United States Postal Service (USPS) and Ford Motor Company launched the nation's largest single fleet of electric vehicles at a ceremony in Sacramento, CA, on April 19. Most of the 500 zero emission vehicles will operate in Southern California cities where air pollution problems are most severe. The electric delivery vans, which will be used in short carrier routes, will enable the USPS to reduce the tail pipe emissions of its vehicles by nearly 143,000 pounds of carbon monoxide, 11,000 pounds of hydrocarbons, and 16,000 pounds of nitrogen oxides each year. Since almost 95% of the vehicle charging will be done during off-peak hours, the vehicles should not put further strain on California's overburdened electric grid. The California Energy Commission helped bring together fifteen groups—including the U.S. Department of Energy, local air quality management districts, utilities, and state agencies--that agreed to help pay the cost difference between gas-powered delivery vans and the electric vans. [California Energy Commission Homepage](#), April 19, 2001



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Location	Other Information
APRIL 2001			
21-25	Forum 2001 — Solar Energy: The Power to Choose	Washington, DC	www.solarenergyforum.org
23	Wind Energy for Northwest Public Power – Issues and Policies	Portland, OR	www.nwppa.org
23-25	Intertech's Fifth International Conference on Distributed Power	Washington, DC	Hugh Olmstead; olmstead@intertechusa.com; 207-281-9606
24-25	Utility Wind Interest Group Annual Meeting	Portland, OR	www.uwig.org
30-May 5	Affordable Comfort Conference: Home Performance Strategies	Milwaukee, WI	www.affordablecomfort.org
30-May 1	Peak Load Management Alliance Conference	Washington, DC	Co-sponsored by AESP International; eboardman@aesp.org, 561-432-8000
MAY 2001			
1-3	Industrial Energy Technology Conf.	Houston, TX	jim@esl.tamu.edu
2-4	National Community Action Foundation's Legislative Conf.	Washington, DC	www.ncaf.org Secretary Abraham invited to speak
3	Oklahoma Wind Workshop	Oklahoma City, OK	conferencepros.com/windpower
9-10	Second Int'l CHP Symposium	Amsterdam, Netherlands	www.2ndCHPSymposium.com ; Bob Dixon invited to speak
7-9	The 21st Annual Utility Energy Forum	Tahoe City, CA	Gnelson181@aol.com
9-10	Energy Management Conference	San Diego, CA	Sponsored by FEMP; www.aeecenter.org
9-11	GasMart Power 2001	Tampa, FL	www.gasmart.com or (800) 427-5747
13-16	Seventh Annual National Clean Cities Conference	Philadelphia, PA	Clean Cities Hotline: 800-224-8437 www.ccities.doe.gov/conference.shtml
21-23	Third Annual ICEPAG Conference	Newport Beach, CA	www.parcon.uci.edu/colloquium
24-25	Conference on Hybrid Systems	Newport Beach, CA	www.parcon.uci.edu/colloquium
30-31	Fuel Cells Codes & Standards Summit V	College Park, MD	ronald.fiskum@ee.doe.gov
31	Idaho Geothermal Energy Stakeholders Workshop	Boise, ID	www.eren.doe.gov/geopoweringthewest



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE 2001

3-6	FEMP Energy 2001 Conference	Kansas City, MO	www.energy2001.ee.doe.gov
3-7	WindPower 2001 Conference	Washington, DC	www.awea.org ; laura_keelan@awea.org
4-6	Advanced Technology Program National Institute of Standards and Technology — National Meeting	Baltimore, MD	www.atp.nist.gov/nationalmeeting
4-7	ASME Turbo Expo-Land, Sea, and Air	New Orleans, LA	www.asme.org/igti ; Debbie Haught is organizing a microturbine panel
4-7	International Joint Power Generation Conference & Expo	New Orleans, LA	www.asme.org/conf/ijpgc01 ; Debbie Haught is presenting
11	Fuel Cell Transportation Technology Summit	San Jose, CA	Sandra Gadzia; gadzia@sae.org
11-13	International Symposium on Distributed Generation: Power System and Market Aspects	Stockholm, Sweden	www.ekc.kth.se/ees/workshop/DG.htm
18-20	APPA National Conference	Washington, DC	www.appanet.org
26	Congressional Fuel Cell Exposition	Washington, DC	More information will be available at a later date.

JULY 2001

10-12	Gas Storage Workshop	Kingston, Ontario	David Quinn; quinn-d@rmc.ca
16-19	2001 National Workshop on State Building Energy Codes	Burlington, VT	www.eren.doe.gov/buildings/codes_standards/ buildings/2001natl_workshop.html
24-27	ACEEE Summer Study	Tarrytown, NY	www.aceee.org ; Rebecca Lunetta; 302-292-3966
31- Aug. 1	Green Power Conference	Portland, OR	Tina Kaarsberg; tina.kaarsberg@ee.doe.gov

AUGUST 2001

21-24	International Energy Program Evaluation Conference	Salt Lake City, UT	608-835-6880; marymcc@tds.net
29- Sep. 3	IEEC Integrated Energy Efficiency Congress	Cleveland, OH	Sponsored in part by FEMP; www.aeecenter.org

OCTOBER 2001

24-26	World Energy Engineering Congress	Atlanta, GA	www.agcc.org
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